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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 015963 TOSEC 010118
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 SIG-01 CCO-00 /027 R

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APPROVED BY:S/S:PTARNOFF
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O P 201418Z JAN 78 ZFF5
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN IMMEDIATE
INFO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

S E C R E T STATE 015963 TOSEC 010118

COPENHAGEN FOR ACTION WITH DANISH EC PRESIDENCY

DUBLIN PASS CODEL ZABLOCKI; NOT FOR ACTION WITH IRISH GOVERNMENT

FOLLOWING REPEAT SECTO 1035 ACTIONSECRETARY SECSTATE USUN NEWYORK
AMMAN BEIRUT ABU DHABI BELGRADE BUCHAREST BONN ALGIERS CAIRO
DAMASCUS KUWAIT KHARTOUM JIDDA LONDON MUSCAT PARIS RABAT ROME
SANA MANAMA TEHRAN TUNIS USNATO INFO MOSCOW JAN 19

QUOTE S E C R E T SECTO 01035

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJECT: JERUSALEM PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

1. AS YOU WILL KNOW, EGYPTIAN DELEGATION RETURNED
TO CAIRO TONIGHT ON SADAT'S INSTRUCTIONS. PRESIDENT
CARTER TALKED WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, AS DID THE SECRETARY,
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AND SADAT EXPLAINED HIS REASONS. THE SECRETARY ALSO
TALKED WITH FOREIGN MINISTER KAMEL BEFORE HIS DE-
PARTURE AND WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN. THIS IS
OBVIOUSLY A DIFFICULT MOMENT IN THE PEACE NEGOTIA-
TIONS. KAMEL HAS SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE IS RETURNING
HOME FOR CONSULTATIONS. NO ONE HAS SAID THAT THIS
IS A BREAK IN THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

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2. THE SECRETARY WILL BE TALKING TO PRIME MINISTER BEGIN TOMORROW AND, AS SCHEDULED, TO PRESIDENT SADAT ON FRIDAY IN CAIRO AND IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO TALK ABOUT NEXT STEPS UNTIL AFTER THESE CONVERSATIONS. OBVIOUSLY, WE ARE DOWN TO VERY SERIOUS ISSUES. THE SECRETARY HAS BEEN ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN NEGOTIATIONS HERE, HAVING MET THREE TIMES TODAY WITH EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER AND THREE TIMES WITH ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER, IN ADDITION TO FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS SESSIONS AT WHICH ALL DELEGATIONS PRESENT. WE HAVE IN FACT MADE PROGRESS IN TWO DAYS OF TALKS ON DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES FOR COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT. AFTER A PAUSE, WE EXPECT THE PARTIES TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS.

3. WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO HASTY REACTIONS OR PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY US OR OUR FRIENDS AT THIS TIME DRAWING PREMATURE CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THE RETURN OF THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION FOR CONSULTATIONS. WE WOULD NOT LIKE TO SEE ANY REACTION WHICH MAKES MORE DIFFICULT THE PEACE PROCESS WHICH WE BELIEVE MUST CONTINUE.

4. YOU SHOULD CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS AND CONVEY TO THEM OUR VIEWS, DRAWING ON

THE ABOVE AND VARIOUS STATEMENTS THE SECRETARY HAS MADE TO THE PRESS THIS EVENING. IN PARTICULAR, YOU SHOULD DO WHAT YOU CAN TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO AVOID PREMATURE JUDGMENT ON TODAY'S EVENTS WHICH MIGHT PREJUDICE THE PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUED, USEFUL NEGOTIATIONS. THE FACT THAT EMOTIONS HAVE RISEN IS, IN OUR VIEW, NATURAL REFLECTION OF FACT THAT PARTIES HAVE BEGUN TO DEAL WITH THE GUT ISSUES, IN PARTICULAR THE PALESTINIAN PROBLE.

5. YOU SHOULD SAY THAT YOU WILL HAVE A FULLER REPORT TO CONVEY AFTER THE SECRETARY'S CONVERSATIONS WITH BEGIN AND SADAT WHEN WE WILL HAVE MORE TO REPORT ON THE CURRENT STATE OF PLAY. VANCE. UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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